REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Examiner rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0016489 A1 (hereinafter "Haymes") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,084,543 (hereinafter "Iizuka").

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons set out below, and asks the Examiner for reconsideration.

Claim 1 recites "a directional indicator ... to guide a user along a route that reduces a probability of losing the wireless connection." The Office Action correctly states that Haymes fails to disclose a directional indicator of claim 1. The Office Action relies on Haymes, P. [0021] to disclose a component "to guide a user along a route that reduces a probability of losing the wireless connection" of claim 1. Haymes, in P. [0021], discloses the embodiment implemented in the office environment. (Haymes, P. [0017].) Specifically, Haymes, P. [0021] reads as follows:

There is a constantly updated error data base 350, that contains records of all error messages. This data base 350 may form or be contained within a network management station within one or more of the base stations. Alternatively the database 350 may be replicated at all of the mobile units. This data base 350 can be manipulated to extract any recurring error trends which indicate regions that are "dead zones" and/or combinations of locations and times that are problematic etc. When the data base 350 is established, it is advantageous for the system controller 310 to periodically query the database processor 370 to determine if a particular user 320 is entering into a known problem area or condition. The system controller may inform the end user of the appropriate steps to take to maintain connectivity. This is done via an audible alarm and/or a display at the user's 320 device. In some cases the user is told to change direction, channel, power level etc.

As is stated in the passage above, in Haymes, a user may be told to change direction (which, in the office environment, may entail turning around and walking a few steps back). Such instruction is given in Haymes only when the controller receives an indication that the user is entering the problem area. It is submitted that a one time instruction to a user "to change direction" in order to maintain connectivity, is distinct from guiding a user along a route that reduces a probability of losing the wireless connection, as recited in claim 1.

lizuka is directed at a route guide apparatus, but it does not disclose or suggest any mechanism "to guide a user along a route that reduces a probability of losing the wireless connection" of claim 1, whether considered singularly or in combination with Haymes.

Because not every element of claim 1 is disclosed in the combination of Haymes and Iizuka, claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentable and should be allowed.

Claim 8 includes the feature of "enabling the cell phone to provide directions to guide a user along a route that improves wireless signal strength." Thus, claim 8 and its dependent claims are patentable and should be allowed for at least the reasons articulated with respect to claim 1.

Claim 15, includes the feature of "a memory region coupled to a cell phone including instructions that, if executed by the processor, cause the system to guide a user along a route that reduces a probability of losing the wireless connection." Thus, claim 15 and its dependent claims are patentable and should be allowed for at least the reasons articulated with respect to claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or

assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Elena Dreszer at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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